

REMARKS

Introductory Comments

Examiner Trettel is thanked for the courtesies extended to the undersigned during the telephonic interview on May 20, 2003. Claims 27, 29-47 and 58-70 are solicited. Claims 27, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 45 are presented in independent form. Claim 28 has been canceled, claims 27, 29-32, 36-39, and 45 have been amended and new claims 58-70 have been added.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the examiner's indication that claims 28-32, 36, 37, and 45-47 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Claim 27 has been amended to include the limitation of dependant claim 28 and is therefore believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 31, 32, 36, 37, 39 and 45 have been also been rewritten in independent form and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance. These amendments to claims are directed to format, and are not intended to narrow the claims in a manner effecting the patentability. Applicants submit that claims 27-37, 39 and 45-47 are now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

The following remarks reflect and expand upon the subject matter discussed during the telephone interview.

Claim Rejections

Independent claim 38 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by either U.S. Patent No. 5,175,897 to Marra (hereinafter "Marra") or U.S. Patent No. 4,612,679 to Mitchell (hereinafter "Mitchell").

Marra relates to a bed rail cover system including a pair of bed rails 14, 16 that are connected to the bed frame 12 by connector elements 18. Connector elements 18 allow movement of the rails between a raised and lowered position. Two housings 32, 34 are positioned on the rails for accommodating equipment such as controls for adjusting the configuration of the bed or communication apparatus such as a telephone or intercom.

Mitchell relates to a side guard assembly including a side guard assembly 40 supported by two swing arms 72. The side guard assembly 40 includes a bed control unit 160 and a telephone 158.

Claim 38 had been amended to claim a processor in communication with the display screen, the processor being configured to provide variable graphical information to the display screen. Neither Mitchell nor Marra, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests a processor in communication with a display screen, the processor being configured to provide variable graphical information to the display screen as recited in amended claim 38. Accordingly applicants submit that amended independent claim 38 is in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

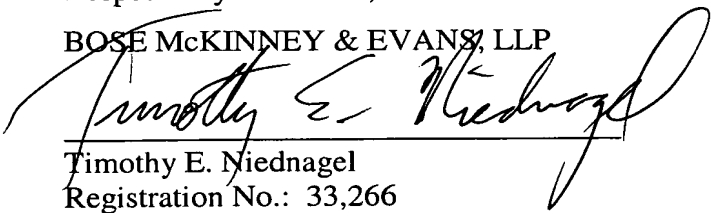
Final Remarks

New dependent claims 58-70 have been added. Applicants submit that pending claims 27, 29-47, and 58-70 are now in condition for allowance.

If necessary, Applicants request that this Response be considered a request for an extension of time for a time appropriate for the response to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees needed beyond those submitted with this Response be charged to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, Deposit Account Number 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

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